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MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTH SESSION

OF THE

Gray's Creek Colored Association,

HELD WITH THE

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH,

ROBESON CO., N. C.,

October 29th, 30th and 31st 1874.

LUMBERTON, N. C.,
ROBESONIAN PRINT.
1875.

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PROCEEDINGS.

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Pleasant Hill, Robeson Co., N. C.,
Oct. 29th, 1874.

By request the introductory discourse was delivered by Elder A. R. Pittman.

After recess the Association was called to order by the former Moderator, Elder John Croslin.

Elder A. R. Pittman was chosen Clerk *pro tem.*

Letters were then called for and the names of the delegates were enrolled.

The following officers were then chosen: Elder John M. Whitted, Moderator, and Bro. James Evans, Clerk.

An invitation was given to visiting and corresponding brethren to take seats with us, whereupon, Elder A. R. Pittman, from the Cape Fear Association, came forward and accepted a seat, and was requested to aid us in our deliberations.

A letter was received from the Cape Fear Association, expressing their brotherly love and the appointment of corresponding brethren to aid us in our deliberations, which was most gladly received, and Elder A. R. Pittman was requested to forward to the Cape Fear Association a letter reciprocating their kindness and brotherly love toward us.

The Pastors and Deacons of this Church were appointed a Committee to supply the stand with Ministers, and also a Committee of Vigilance during the sitting of the Association.

On motion, it was ordered that the Association choose its own missionary, when Elder J. M. Whitted was chosen for the ensuing Associational year.

After singing and prayer, the Association adjourned till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, Oct. 30, 1874.

After singing and prayer the roll was called and the minutes of yesterday were corrected, and invitations were given to newly constituted Churches who wished to unite with us, when the following presented themselves; and after enquiring into their orthodoxy, church government, &c., were duly received and the right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates by the Moderator in behalf of the Association, viz: Hilly Branch, Cedar Grove and St. John's Churches, Robeson county, N. C.; Mill Branch and Zion's Plain Churches, Columbus county, N. C.

On motion, it was ordered that the Pastors of the various Churches be requested to address their congregations once or twice during the year upon the benefits arising from well conducted Sabbath Schools.

Brother Waters, of the Cape Fear Association, was invited to a seat and to participate in our deliberations; also brethren J. P. Pittman, A. A. McMillan, and Elder D. C. McMillan, of the same Association.

The Association adjourned to the stand to listen to a sermon from Elder A. R. Pittman.

The former Treasurer reported that from an unforeseen accident the money belonging to the Association was lost, whereupon a collection was taken up to aid Elder Samuel Boone to replace the lost money, and expressed their condolence with him for his loss.

The following preamble and resolutions were presented:

WHEREAS, We, the Gray's Creek Baptist Association in Convention assembled, believe that Baptism which is scripturally administered only by immersion by an ordained minister of the Missionary Baptist Denomination is essential to communion at the Lord's Table and Pulpit Declamation; therefore

Resolved, 1*st*, That we guard sacredly the trust delivered to us by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ against all encroachments of man, admitting none to the communion table except baptized believers after our own faith and order.

Resolved, 2*nd*, That none but ministers of our own faith and practices be invited to preach in our pulpits.

The discussion of the preamble and resolutions were postponed till to-morrow.

On motion, it was agreed that the next Associational meeting of this body be held with Pleasant Grove Church, Robeson county, N. C., commencing on Thursday before the first Sabbath in November A. D. 1875.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow at 8 o'clock.

Singing of doxology and benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING, Oct. 31, 1875.

Session was called to order by singing and prayer.

The Moderator called the house to order.

The roll was called and the minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

An invitation was extended to visiting brethren to take seats with us, when Elder S. D. Collins, brethren Jacob Thompson and Neill Townsend, of the Cape Fear Association came forward and were welcomed to seats.

On motion, it was ordered that C. C. Gransome be recognized as Sabbath School Superintendent of our Association.

Brother Owen C. McMillan presented himself as a beneficiary, whereupon general sympathy was manifested and some amounts were pledged to aid him.

The following were appointed an Executive Committee, to whom was referred all business appertaining to our body during the Associational year: Elders Samuel Boon, N. D. Wooten, J. M. Whitted, Gilbert Monroe, and brethren John Marley, Wright, Pittman, Harris, Singletary, McNeill, and Elder James Bright.

It was unanimously resolved that the thanks of this body are due and are tendered to the colored citizens of this community for their very hospitable entertainment of this body, and also to the brethren of the Cape Fear Association, who aided us in our deliberations and that a copy of our minutes be presented to each of the latter as an appreciation of our thanks.

Ordered, that the Clerk be paid three dollars for his services.

Elders John Croylin and Willis Haynes reported their missionary labors, which were satisfactory.

On motion, it was ordered that the Treasurer be held responsible for all moneys delivered to his hands.

An invitation was extended to newly constituted Churches, when Pleasant Hill Church, Cumberland county, N. C., was admitted to membership in the Association.

Elder James Bright was appointed to preach the next missionary sermon.

Adjourned to time and place specified. Adjournment to take place after last service to-morrow.

Dismissed with doxology and benediction.

J. M. WHITTED, MODERATOR.

JAMES EVANS, *Clerk.*

SABBATH, Nov. 1st, 1874.

The day was rather unauspicious, but there was a large concourse of both white and colored.

Elder Samuel Boon first addressed the assembly from St. Luke, Chapter XV, verse 22. "But the Father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe and put it on him and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet," afterwards an exortation from Elder Moses Louder.

The missionary sermon was then preached by Elder James Bright from the 15th verse and XIV chapter of Exodus. "And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward," and a collection amounting to twenty dollars was then taken up.

After a recess of thirty minutes, Elder Hanson Gore preached a very instructive and impressive sermon from Romans, chapter VI., verse 23: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

During the singing of "Children of the Heavenly King," "When I can read my titles clear," and "Blest be the tie that binds," the fraternal hand was given, and thus passed one of the most impressive and encouraging seasons we have ever enjoyed.

LIST OF MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

Baldwin, Benjamin	Whiteville,	North Carolina.
Boon, Samuel,	Prospect Hall,	" "
Bowman, James	Fayetteville,	" "
Bright, James	Whiteville,	" "
Croslin, John	Prospect Hall,	" "
Gore, Sharpe	Paraway Ferry,	" "
Gore, Hanson	Whiteville,	" "
Gause, Benj. L.	"	" "
Hill, John F.	Wilmington,	" "
Haynes, Willis	Whiteville,	" "
Johnson, M. D.	Wilmington,	" "
Louder, Moses	Little River,	South Carolina.
Mims, Limas	Supply,	North Carolina.
Monroe, Gilbert		" "
Moore, Alex'r	Leesville,	" "
Morrison, Mitchell	Whiteville,	" "
McCoy, S. H.	White Hall,	" "
Robeson, Needham	Abbottsburg,	" "
Whitted, John M.	Prospect Hall,	" "
Woolin, Nelson D.	Dalton,	" "
Thompson, Alex'r	Lumberton,	" "

STATISTICAL TABLE.

COUNTIES AND CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Mission.	Baptized	Rec'd. by Letter.	Restored	Dismis'd by Let'r.	Exclud'd	Dead.	Males.	Females	Total.	Assoc'n Fund.
CUMBERLAND CO.												
Gray's Creek,	Lewis Smith, Sam'l Boon, J. W. Burns.	2 50	1		2	1	3	1	46	96	142	2 50
Swann's Creek,	Mack McNeill, Peter Burns, George McMillan.			1			2		14	17	31	1 00
Savannah,	Thos. McDonald, W. D. McDonald, Henry McNeill.	1 50	6	2			6	2	28	42	70	1 50
Fayetteville,	Eld. H. Turner, Francis Graham, Bartley Tyler,	3 00	14	3	6	4	2	4	22	96	118	2 00
BLADEN COUNTY.												
Pleasant Hill,	Jas. Atkinson, Jas. Grant.		5	4							27	
New Light,	Jack Jones, Ephriam Davis, Thos. Mainer.	1 25	4				3	1	31	66	97	1 25
Baldwin's Branch,	Antony Melvin, George Davis, Luke Hodge.		3	1		6	6		20	23	43	1 60
Bryan Swamp,	Harrison Singletary, Wright Singletary, R. Hesters.		5		1		6	1	40	36	76	1 30
New Hope,	A. P. Wright, Gilbert Monroe, Hayes.		11			1		1			245	1 30
China Grove,												
COLUMBUS COUNTY.												
Mount Moriah,	Bright Williamson, Dollar Brown, Thos. Davis.	1 00	5	5			3				69	1 50
Mount Olive,	John Marley, John Robinson, Jas. Evans.	50	2	1	2		11				106	1 50
Spring Hill,	Alfred George, Jas. Pierce, Berry Bert.	1 00			1		2		9	19	28	50
Whiteville,	Gilbert George, Eld. W. Haynes, Reuben Johnson.	1 00	2	1	1		4	1			57	1 00
Welch's Creek,	Matthew Rouse, Mitchell Brown, T. W. Baldwin.	51	1	3							47	50
Gum Swamp,												
Sandy Plains,	Eld. James Bright, Israel Moore, M. J. Mitchell.	2 50		3							44	1 50
Salem,	Isaac Mears, Marion Beata, James Powell.	3 00	8		37	4	2	4			157	1 50
Brister Creek,	James Dudly, Jas. Regan, Washington Coleman.	1 20					4				38	
BRUNSWICK CN'TY.												1 00
Cedar Grove.	Miles Bryan, Benj. Thomas, Andrew Bryan.	1 00	2								43	1 00
Pleasant View,	Sharpe Gore, L. Frink, George Bland.	1 50		2	4		18		29	32	61	1 50
Zion's Hill,	Abr. Bellamy, Richard Robinson.	1 00	5					1	6	16	22	50
Macedonia,												
Mount Zoar,	Sam'l Galoway.	50					3		6	9	15	60
ROBESON COUNTY.												
Pleasant Grove,	Manuel McMillan, D. McMillan, P. Sinclair.	2 27	6	3	2	8	4	1	37	47	84	1 50
Pleasant Hill,	W. Pittman, Drue Hill, D. Powell.	2 00	27	8	9	2	27		121	163	284	2 00
Sandy Grove,	H. Thompson, Esic Cobb.		4	33							37	1 00
Ebenezar,	Jerry Pittman, Isaac Coleman.	1 00	1	8		4	1		29	44	73	1 40
HORRY COUNTY,												
Flag Patch.	D. Bellamy, George Wickman, Kelly Wickman,	1 25	2	1	1		2	1	10	23	33	75

STATISTICAL TABLE.--Newly Constituted Churches.

COUNTIES AND CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Missions	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored	Dism'is'd by Lete'r	Exclud'd	Dead.	Males.	Females	Total.	Assoc'n Fund.
HORRY COUNTY.												
Chesterfield.	Elder Moses London, Sol. Chesnut, Sam'l Chesnut.										20	1 00
COLUMBUS CN'TY.												
Mill Branch.	H. Lewis, H. Best, B. Frink.	1 00	3	2					10	10	20	1 00
ROBESON COUNTY.												
Hilly Branch,	Ricard McCollum, F. Thompson, Isaac Moore.	20							17	15	32	50
HORRY COUNTY.												
Mt. Calvry,	D. F. Beaty, Preston Richardson, Wesley Wilson.		22	10							32	1 50
COLUMBUS CN'TY.												
Zion's Plain,	York Ward, Benjamin Smith, Rufus Gore.	1 00									31	50
ROBESON COUNTY.												
Cedar Grove,	Henry Carlile, Henry Davis, Jack Carlile.		10	45			2	1	25	27	52	1 00
ROBESON COUNTY.												
St. John's,	Stephen McNeill, David McDonald, Sandy Ansly,	2 50	47	1							48	2 50
CUMBERLAND Co.												
Spring Hill,	Adam Millan, Samuel Graham.										17	

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Gen. i: 26. 2 Cor. xiii: 14.

II. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. iii: 16.

III. We believe in the doctrine of eternal, particular Election. Acts xiii: 48. Romans viii: 28, 30; xi: 5, 7. 2 Tim. ii: 10. 1 Pet. i: 2. John vi: 37, 44.

IV. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin. Ps. liv: 5.

V. We believe in the doctrine of man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, of his own free-will ability. Eph. ii: 1—10.

VI. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ. Gal. ii: 16. Rom. iii: 24; v: 9.

VII. We believe that God Elect shall be called, converted and sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Eph. i: 4—7. 2 Thess. ii: 13, 14. Tim. i: 9.

VIII. We believe that the Saints shall persevere in grace, and shall never fall finally away. John x: 28, 29; xiii: 1. 1 Pet. i: 5.

IX. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances; and that the true mode of Baptism is Immersion. Matt, iii: 16. Acts viii: 38, 39. Rom. vi: 4. Eph. iv: 5. Col. ii: 12.

X. We believe in the Resurrection of the Dead and a general Judgment. 1 Cor. ch. xv. Rev. xx: 11—15.

XI. We believe that the punishment of the wicked is everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous are eternal. Matt. xxv: 46. Rev. xx: 12—15.

XII. We beiieve that Ordained Ministers, or such as have come under the imposition of hands by a regularly authorized Presbytery only, have a right to administer the ordinances. Acts xiii: 3. 1 Tim. iv: 14. 2 Tim. i: 6.

Rev Haynes Lemmon